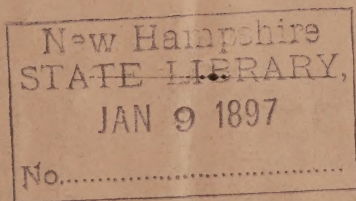


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REPORTS
OF THE
Superintending School Committee,
AND
SELECTMEN,
OF THE
TOWN OF LYNDEBOROUGH,
FOR THE YEAR ENDING FEB. 28, 1860.



MILFORD:

PRINTED AT BOUTWELL'S NEWSPAPER & JOB OFFICE.

1860.

Report of the S. School Committee of Lyndeborough, N. H.,

For the Year ending March 13, 1860.

FELLOW CITIZENS :—Knowing that you consider our Common Schools an institution of inestimable value, it is no unpleasant task to invite your attention to statements in respect to their condition, and suggestions pertaining to their usefulness. While we congratulate you on the general prosperity of the cause among us, we do not claim perfection to our system, or unqualified success to its operations. Yet this circumstance affords no just reason to be weary in well doing. The manufacturing company does not slacken effort in a lucrative undertaking, because of an occasional disaster ; nor does the strong hearted farmer withhold his hand from the plough *this season*, because he gathered last year, but a meager harvest. *Complete* success is not to be expected in human enterprises. The questions with us should be : Are not our Common Schools indispensable to the interests of our children and our country ? Has not our system, for the most part, worked well ? Is not our money expended, *generally*, so as to benefit our children and youth ? And until we know a more perfect way, shall we not continue to make liberal appropriations, and wisely and diligently seek the largest amount of good.

With these preliminaries, I invite your attention to a brief representation of the state of our schools the past year.

DISTRICT NO. 1.

Money assigned, \$119,71. Dea. Wm. Jones, Prud. Committee.

The SUMMER TERM, which was 10 weeks long, was taught by Miss Eliza P. Jones, whose wages including board, were \$15 per month. The whole number of scholars attending not less than two weeks, was 32, whose average attendance during the term, was nearly 27. Twenty-nine were present at the closing examination, when most of the classes evinced gratifying improvement, and the general appearance of the school was creditable.

The WINTER TERM was 12 weeks long. Forty-four belonged to the school, whose attendance gave the average of 34. Forty-three of them attended to Arithmetic ; 22, Grammar ; 18, Geography ; 8, Algebra ; and 10 Composition ; while Reading and Spelling received a good share of attention. So far as we could judge, the school was well governed and skilfully conducted. Some of the classes made rapid progress in their studies, and at the examination a happy degree of improvement was generally evinced. The teacher, Miss Hattie Richardson, received \$20 per month, including board,—a profitable outlay. The new school house erected in this district, supplants another of the *ancient edifices*, that remind us of the times that were.

DISTRICT NO. 2.

Money assigned, \$105.43. David C. Grant, Esq., Prud. Committee.

The SUMMER SCHOOL of eleven weeks, was taught by Miss Francis A. Holt, who was remunerated at the rate of \$14 per month, including board. The average attendance of the 19 different scholars, was nearly 15. The school appeared to give general satisfaction to the district, and the closing examination bespoke success to the teacher's endeavors. It was enlivened by songs and the recitation of interesting pieces.

Nine weeks was the length of the Winter School, which was taught by Mr. T. P. Sawin, at the expense of \$27.33, for wages and board. The Register gives 23 different scholars, and the average attendance of nearly 18. The teacher had the advantage of superior scholarship with aptness to teach; and, although the school was not without profit, yet a lack of discipline diminished its usefulness. We are persuaded, however, that his capabilities with increasing experience, will render him a successful teacher.

DISTRICT NO. 3.

Money assigned, \$137.82. Mr. Charles Henry Holt, Prud. Committee

There were three terms. The first two were each of them eight weeks long; and in both cases the wages and board, were \$15 per month. Thirty-one different scholars were registered the first term, and 34 the second; 25 was the average attendance of the former, and 23 of the latter.

Although at the closing examination of the first school, the amount of improvement in some of the branches could not be set above mediocrity, yet it was gratifying to observe that accuracy and naturalness had been sought in teaching the art of reading. The recitation of pieces, the reading of compositions, and other miscellaneous exercises of an interesting character were appropriately interspersed. The constant aim of the teacher, Miss H. E. Bell, to improve her pupils in morals and manners was highly commendable. Too much *judicious* effort cannot be laid out in this direction.

On the last day of the second term nearly all the classes made a favorable appearance, and these with dialogues and declamations rendered it an interesting examination. Twenty-eight scholars, and 5 visitors, were present. Miss Nellie W. Stayner was the teacher.

The Winter School, which was in session 68 days, (3 days being given,) was taught by Rev. J. B. Mitchell, who was remunerated at the rate of \$1 per day, including board. He reports 22 different scholars, and the average attendance of a fraction over twenty. It was not an easy school to govern. Obstacles stood in the way of thorough discipline which the teacher found it difficult to overcome. But notwithstanding the lack of the school in this respect, the examination, which was attended by 6 visitors and 17 pupils, afforded evidence of improvement, especially in the art of reading, which had obviously been taught with more than ordinary skill and success. We may also specify three pupils in Adams' Arithmetic who had advanced nearly through and who manifested a creditable understanding of their work.

We regretted the absence of Colburn's Arithmetic from the school. In our humble opinion, a more valuable work in this department does not exist in our language.

DISTRICT NO. 4.

Seventy dollars and sixty-three cents was all the money they drew, and 19 weeks all the schooling their children had, yet the Prud. Committee, Mr. Luther Odell and Dea. John C. Goodridge, securing the services of capable teachers, both schools were made very profitable. The scholars were very constant and punctual. The register gives 16 with the average attendance of 14 for the summer term, and 13 with the average of 12 for the Winter Term. Four scholars in the summer, five in the winter, were not absent a single half day. Miss Emeline Spalding, who taught 8 weeks, received \$13 per month, including board at \$1,25 a week, and Miss Martha E. Conant, \$17 per month.

At the close of the summer term, 14 scholars and 7 visitors were present. Progress and improvement were pleasantly evinced, and miscellaneous exercises added to the interest of the examination.

The Winter Term having commenced the 24th of October, closed the 30th of December. Notwithstanding a powerful snow storm, 12 visitors were present at the examination. The teacher's scholarship and fidelity were made obvious in the appearance of her pupils.— Promptness, accuracy, and clear understanding were characteristics of the classes. The singing and declamations were very interesting and creditable.

DISTRICT NO. 5.

Their School money \$71,36 was laid out to good advantage. The Prudential Committee, Mr. George H. Blood, secured the services of excellent teachers, at the rate of \$12 per month in the Summer, and \$24 in the Autumn. Eight weeks was the length of the first term, and 7 the length of the second. Sixteen different scholars giving the average of 14 attended the former, and 17 with the average of over thirteen, the latter. The Register for each term reports four as not having been absent a single half day, and records but 7 instances of tardiness against the school in the Summer.

Sixteen scholars and 18 visitors were present at the close of the first term. The exercises of the examination were very interesting, affording satisfactory evidence of patience, perseverance, and skill on the part of the teacher, Miss Mary F. Hopkins, and interest and improvement on the part of her pupils. We hope to be favored with her services again.

Knowing the bad condition of their school house, the people shrewdly took the *advantage* of Winter, and had their second term before his cold could *interfere*. It commenced the 10th of Oct., and closed the 26th of Nov., and, although but 7 weeks long, a valuable result was secured. Classes were examined with much satisfaction, in Arithmetic, Geography, Grammar, and History, as well as in reading and spelling. Many thanks to the teacher, Mr. A. G. Stearns, for his patient and skillful labors.

DISTRICT NO. 6.

Money assigned, \$101,59. Mr. I. P. Holt, Prudential Committee.

The Summer School, taught by Miss Augusta L. Bruce, was but 9 weeks long, and cost \$14,67 per month; while the Winter School, the board being given, cost but \$18 per month besides the expense of fuel, and was 14 weeks long. The scholars were very constant in their attendance, especially during the first term, when *six* were not absent a single half day, and the entire 20 were present to such a degree that the good average of 19 was secured. The term closed the 5th of Aug. a delightful day. Twenty-three visitors and all the scholars but one were present. The examination was not an ambitious one. The appearance of some of the classes was about mediocrity, but we were happy to mark others as excellent.

Thirty different scholars were embraced in the Winter list. Their average attendance was 26. Two of them were present every half day. Teacher, Mr. Mark F Burns, of Milford. Although the examination was held several days before the close, and the teacher had but brief notice thereof, yet the appearance of the school was by no means discreditable. Twenty-seven visitors and 24 scholars, were present. While we felt obliged to mark the improvement of two or three classes as moderate, yet the appearance of most of them was very favorable, some of them evincing accuracy and understanding highly satisfactory. The "pieces" were all well selected and generally well recited. For the neatness of its pages, and the excellence of its sentiments, "The Scholars' Wreath," is not easily surpassed. It was read with more than ordinary propriety and listened too with evident satisfaction.

We think Mr. Burns entered upon his work with competent scholarship, and the sincere desire to keep a good school; and, although for a while, better discipline was evidently desirable, yet his capability was at length evinced in well directed efforts for its attainment, and in the favorable results already mentioned. With his present experience we regard him as a promising teacher.

The Register records 160 visits to the school-room the past year, a considerable portion of them from the people of the district. It bespeaks a very laudable interest. Progress in all that is worthy, seems to be with them the prevailing disposition.

DISTRICT NO. 7.

Money assigned, \$104,67. Mr. Robert K. Lynch, Prud. Committee.

Fourteen scholars attended the Summer School, which was taught by Miss Nellie W. Stayner, the period of 10 weeks. Though kind and indulgent to her pupils, yet the school when visited was still and orderly and good evidence of its usefulness was afforded.

Miss Augusta L. Bruce of Mont Vernon taught the Winter school 12 weeks, receiving the compensation of \$20 per month including board. She had 18 different pupils whose average attendance was 13. Seventeen were present at the examination. Their demeanor was highly commendable, and the amount of improvement they exhibited, very gratifying. While one pupil had worked through Algebra,

it gave us pleasure to find that neither reading nor spelling, nor *writing* had been neglected; and we were happy to mark the class in Emerson's Arithmetic as highly satisfactory, and the one in Colburn's as *admirable*.

DISTRICT NO. 8.

Although the money assigned was but \$56.34, yet by giving the board in the summer and furnishing it at a low price in the Winter, they made out 21 weeks of schooling. This has been their general practice for years, and has been no small contribution to the educational advantages of their children. The example is worthy of imitation. Mr. Benj. Dutton was the Prudential Committee. He employed Miss Lizzie S. Mansfield of New Boston, to teach the Summer school, which was ten weeks long, and numbered 10 different scholars. The people manifest commendable interest in the examination of their schools. At the close of both terms, more *visitors than scholars were present*. We are happy to speak in favorable terms of the Summer school, and of its appearance at the close, when the room was tastefully decorated with garlands and flowers. A better house is greatly needed.

Miss Juliette Hagget commenced the Winter school, but at the expiration of four weeks, she was obliged to leave her work, on account of sickness at home. We are happy to have heard satisfaction expressed in respect to her services. She was succeeded by Miss Susan M. Sawyer of Francestown, who taught $7\frac{1}{2}$ weeks with excellent success.— Though but eight scholars were on her list, (one of them too young to be registered) yet they were very constant in their attendance and derived considerable benefit from the school. The teacher bids fair to be very useful in this good calling to which she seems well adapted.

DISTRICT NO. 9.

The amount of money assessed them was \$54.48, and the entire amount of schooling for the year was but 13 weeks. Six weeks the first term, and 7 the second. There were 8 scholars in the Summer, and 9 in the Winter. The average attendance of each term was nearly seven. Wages and board were \$12 the Summer term, and \$17 the Winter. The Prudential Committee, Mr. Jotham S. Stephenson employed Miss Ellen B. Holt for the summer school. It was her first effort. Though young and inexperienced, she seemed to understand her work. She evidently possesses the "*faculty*," and if she pursues the avocation, we expect her to become a superior teacher.

The Winter school was taught by Miss Mary F. Hopkins. She made a good beginning, and was visited by the Superintending Committee, but, as he was unable to be present at the close, we can only say that her success at No. 5, in the Summer, afforded presumptive evidence of a like result at No. 9, in the Winter.

DISTRICT NO. 10.

Mr. George Searle, Prud. Committee.

As this is a small district and unites with one in Francetown, it draws but a small sum of school money. The amount assigned was \$22,59. The length of schools was 12 weeks in the summer, and 12 in the winter. Lyndeborough furnished 5 scholars the first term, and 6 the second term. Miss Sarah L. Cochran taught the Summer school. What we saw of it afforded us satisfaction. She has a valuable faculty at interesting young scholars. At the close of the examination we wrote in our memorandum, *A faithful and successful teacher.*

The Winter school was taught by Miss Frances M. Fiske, whose wages were \$12 per month. Her clear mind, and thorough education, and long experience in teaching, afforded promise of a favorable result. As, however, it was impossible for the the Lyndeborough Superintendent to be present at the examination, he would refer those interested, to the Francetown School report.

This survey of the state of our schools the past year is not discouraging. For though we have not realized the largest possible benefit, yet with the outlay of a few hundreds, we have gained an amount of good which we should not be wise to part with for many thousands.— What though a portion of the school money be sometimes unsuccessfully applied? It is only *occasional*. Generally the Districts derive great benefit. Shall we not, then, strive continuously for schools of increased value, and hope for the smiles of a benignant Providence?

Can we act more wisely than to devise liberal things for the improvement of the rising generation? Give your child a good education, and you give him what is better than gold, a permanent capital, on which he can do business, attain to usefulness and respectability, become an intelligent and patriotic citizen, help hold up the pillars of government and perpetuate our institutions of Liberty, Equality and Religion.

E. B. CLAGGETT, }
 } Superintending School
 } Committee of
 } Lyndeborough, N. H.

REPORT OF SELECTMEN.

The Selectmen of Lyndeborough ask leave to submit the following Report.

Amount of money in the treasury, as by last year's report,	363 90
Paid into the treasury since last report,	4348 51
	<hr/>
	4712 41

Money due the Town :

Due on Collector Spalding's list,	801 55
Balance in the treasury, Feb. 28, 1860, "	541 67
Interest due on local fund,	15 24
Due from Dist. No. 1 for pay of committee to locate School House lot,	10 00
Interest due on note of R Chamberlain,	19 80
Due from the town of Wilton for support of H N Abbott,	101 18
From sundry persons, small bills to the amount of	15 88
Present available means,	1505 32

EXPENDITURES.

Paid the Several School Districts as follows :

District No. 1, the sum of	120 34
" " 2, "	107 50
" " 3, "	140 57
" " 4, "	70 63
" " 5, "	71 36
" " 6, "	102 77
" " 7, "	102 22
" " 8, "	56 34
" " 9, "	54 48
" " 10, "	22 59—848 80

Paid extra expense of repairing highways.

Bridge near Charles Goodrich.	10 06
To Wm W Curtis, repairs of highway,	26 12
Abner K Lewis and Harvey Holt,	17 50
Repairs and railing on Forrest road,	219 21
Repairs on Bridge near J Stephenson,	7 27
For breaking paths as reported,	246 74—526 90
Paid for Printing and sundry small bills,	\$24 21

Notes and interest that the town has paid.

John T Holt, note and interest,	201 72
Daniel Woodward, Jr. " "	112 61
Charles Parker, " "	353 43
John D Butler, interest,	208 18
Samuel Jones, "	9 00
Jotham Hildreth, "	18 72
John and William Ramsey, int.	120 00
Sarah Stiles Abbott,	24 00—1047 66

Paid School House Taxes.

To District No. 1, the sum of	700 00
To District No. 4, the sum of	133 35 - 823 35
Paid miscellaneous debts as reported last year,	437 85
Paid Clark and Smith, balance on account,	21 25
H Brickett, for Teachers Institute,	10 52
Ebenezer Fisk, for support of Poor,	75 00
Joel H Tarbell, Military services,	48 50
Insurance on Town Farm buildings,	6 83
For guide Boards,	5 00
Worked out non-resident highway tax,	93 74
J Butler for committee, Dist No. 1,	4 00—702 69

Taxes Abated.

On John H Goodrich's List.

Henry N Abbott tax, 5,52; Miles B Swimington, 3,33;	8 85
George N Cram,	2 62— 11 47

On Peter Clark List,

Jonathan Stephenson, over tax 6,42; John C Ordway, 2,57;	8 99
Solomon D Avery, 2,57; D M Boardman, 2,73;	5 30
Joshua Jones 13,26; sundry other persons as recorded 61,32;	74 58— 88 87

On Levi P Spalding's List.

Town Farm, 31,69; John Litchfield, 2,57; Anna Fisk, 9,67;	43 93
Robert B Osgood, 5,12; Henry Richardson 6,47;	11 59
Nathan B Boutwell, 6,47; A F Clark 6,47;	12 94
Benj. Adams 2,57; Samuel Hodgman 2,57; S D Avery 2,57;	7 71
Moses Bane 1,57; Hannah Putnam, 43; Henry Abbott 2,57;	4 57
Geo. Groombridge, 2,57; John T Parker, 2,57;	5 14—186 22

Debts that the Town owe.

Notes and interest that the Town owes.

Samuel Jones	Note and interest,	159 00
Jotham Hildreth,	" "	324 80
Nathan Richardson,	" "	241 57
Wm. S Ramsey,	" "	1545 41
John Ramsey,	" "	513 82
N T McIntire,	" "	81 90
Harvey Perham,	" "	120 00
Sarah S Abbott,	" "	414 66
John D Butler,	" "	3582 57—6983 73

Due for breaking paths the past Winter.

To Peter Clark,	District	No. 1,	9 83
Abner K Lewis,	"	" 2,	35 45
Franklin Hadley,	"	" 3,	16 70
Sumner French,	"	" 4,	15 70
Daniel B Whittemore,	"	" 5,	15 35
Sylvester Proctor,	"	" 6,	14 02
Charles Parker,	"	" 7,	4 00
Daniel Proctor,	"	" 8,	17 89
Jacob Butler,	"	" 10,	4 00
John Doliver,	"	" 11,	18 85
Burnham Russell,	"	" 12,	8 45
Rufus Chamberlain,	"	" 13,	5 07
Ezra F Melzer,	"	" 14,	11 85
John Hartshorn,	"	" 15,	7 50
Moses Chenery,	"	" 16,	11 30
Joel H Tarbell,	"	" 17,	12 65
Wm. W Curtis,	"	" 18,	12 20
John Lynch,	"	" 19,	1 75
Jotham Hildreth,	"	" 20,	6 55—232 11

Breaking Roads in Spring of 1859.

Levi P Spalding,	1 60	
Geo. W Bosworth,	90	
Cyrus Blanchard,	1 20	
Asa Hill,	2 15	
A K Lewis,	1 50	
Wm. N Ryerson,	1 00	
John H Goodrich,	1 30—	9 65
		<hr/> 7225 49

Due the several School Districts.

To District No. 1,	3 10	
“ “ 2,	1 46	
“ “ 3,	75 82	
“ “ 7,	2 96—	83 34

Miscellaneous Bills that the Town Owes.

E B Claggett, Superintending School Committee,	44 25	
For books for indigent children,	2 31	
To E Fisk, as overseer of poor,	35 97	
“ Money advanced,	31 49	
Wm. N Ryerson, superintending poor farm,	212 52	
Josiah Wheeler, town treasurer,	10 00	
Wm. A Jones, town clerk,	15 00	
Books for record,	7 25	
Levi P Spalding upon completing his collection,	40 00	
Wm. W Howard, services as selectman,	34 50	
John Hartshorn, “ “	31 27	
Edward P. Spalding, “ “	23 77	
Benj. J Clark, for wood and care of Town House,	6 50	
Nelson Kidder, blacksmith bill,	2 34	
Rufus Chamberlain, committee on school house lot, in Dis-		
trict No. 1,	1 50	
David K Holt, “ “ “	1 50	
Geo A Searles, “ “ “	1 50	501 67
		<hr/> 7810 50

Amount Paid.

Paid the several School Districts,	848 80	
Extra expense of highways and breaking paths,	526 90	
Notes and interest,	1047 66	
School House Taxes,	833 35	
Miscellaneous debts,	702 69	
Printing and sundry small bills,	24 21	
Taxes abated,	187 23	
	<hr/> 4170 84	
Demands against the town,	7810 50	
Deduct present available means,	1505 32	
Leaving the town indebted in the sum of	6305 18	

There was a note of Samuel Jones, of \$150, and Due to District No. 4, \$113,35, making 263,35, which was not reported last year.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM W. HOWARD,	}	Selectmen
JOHN HARTSHORN,		of
EDWARD P. SPALDING.		Lyndeborough.

Report of the Overseers of the Poor.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING FEB. 24, 1860

Articles and Produce Sold.

Stock sold,	223 24	Due for milk,	5 13
Calves,	47 32	C H Holt for wheat,	3 00
626 lbs of butter,	131 56	H Holt for work of Mr.	
Milk and cheese,	28 51	Ryerson,	4 75
1042 lbs. of Pork,	82 04	For breaking roads,	3 00
Beef,	5 12	From the town of Wilton,	
Fowls and eggs,	5 07	for support of H N	
Cider and apples,	21 45	Abbott,	101 18
Potatoes and Carrots,	12 47	Rec'd from the county of	
Corn and beans,	14 08	Hillsboro' for support	
Wheat and Flour,	9 50	of Mrs. S B Taylor,	147 09
For use of Bull,	1 50	Bills unpaid Feb 24, 1859,	19 50

Whole Amount,	865 51
Inventory of 1860,	1037 85
	1903 36

Cash paid Out.

Paid for stock, 130,00 ; freight on potatoes, .50 ;	130 50
Flour Barrels 1 34 ; Store bills, 62,30 ; shoemaking, 1,58 ;	65 22
Plow point and lime 1,25 ; churn 4,00 ; milk pans 4,50 ;	9 75
Pigs 13,50 ; sawing lumber 1,59 ; blacksmithing 4,20 ;	19 29
To J Wheeler, for repairs on wheelbarrow and filing saws,	1 33
For making clothes for paupers,	1 59
Horse to plow corn 3.50 ; beef and veal 18 38 ,	21 88
To D Holden for labor 2.25 ; D Carlin labor 1,00 ;	3 25
D M Boardman labor 14.23 ; A Boutelle 12 50 ;	26 73
Wm. Ryerson, 12,48 , E Fiske 1.25 ;	13 73
For freight on Pork 1,25 ; exp. to Nashua for counsel 1.00 ;	2 25
Expense of moving Albert Murphy from Hancock,	2 75
Repairs on aqueduct	1 12
To Dr Wm Jones for medical attendance on Betsey Carlin.	2 50
J Hartshorn for assistance 2.25 ; school house tax 39.81 ;	42 06
Due Wm Ryerson for services as superintendent,	212 52
Due Ebenezer Fiske, for services as overseer,	35 97
Due Ebenezer Fiske, for money advanced,	31 49—623 93

Cash paid for Persons off the Farm.

Abel Fiske for the support of Mrs Sarah Brown,	20 00
Dr. Fleeman for medical attendance,	5 39
Town of Hancock for Albert Murphy,	105 22
For Mrs. Aaron Stiles at Peterboro',	15 00
Town of Frankestown for support of J T Swimington,	23 64
For support of H N Abbott,	101 18
" " Mrs S B Taylor,	145 09
To Anna Fish for the support of her sister,	14 50—1053 95
Inventory of 1859,	1002 91

	2056 86
Amount of produce and articles sold,	1903 36

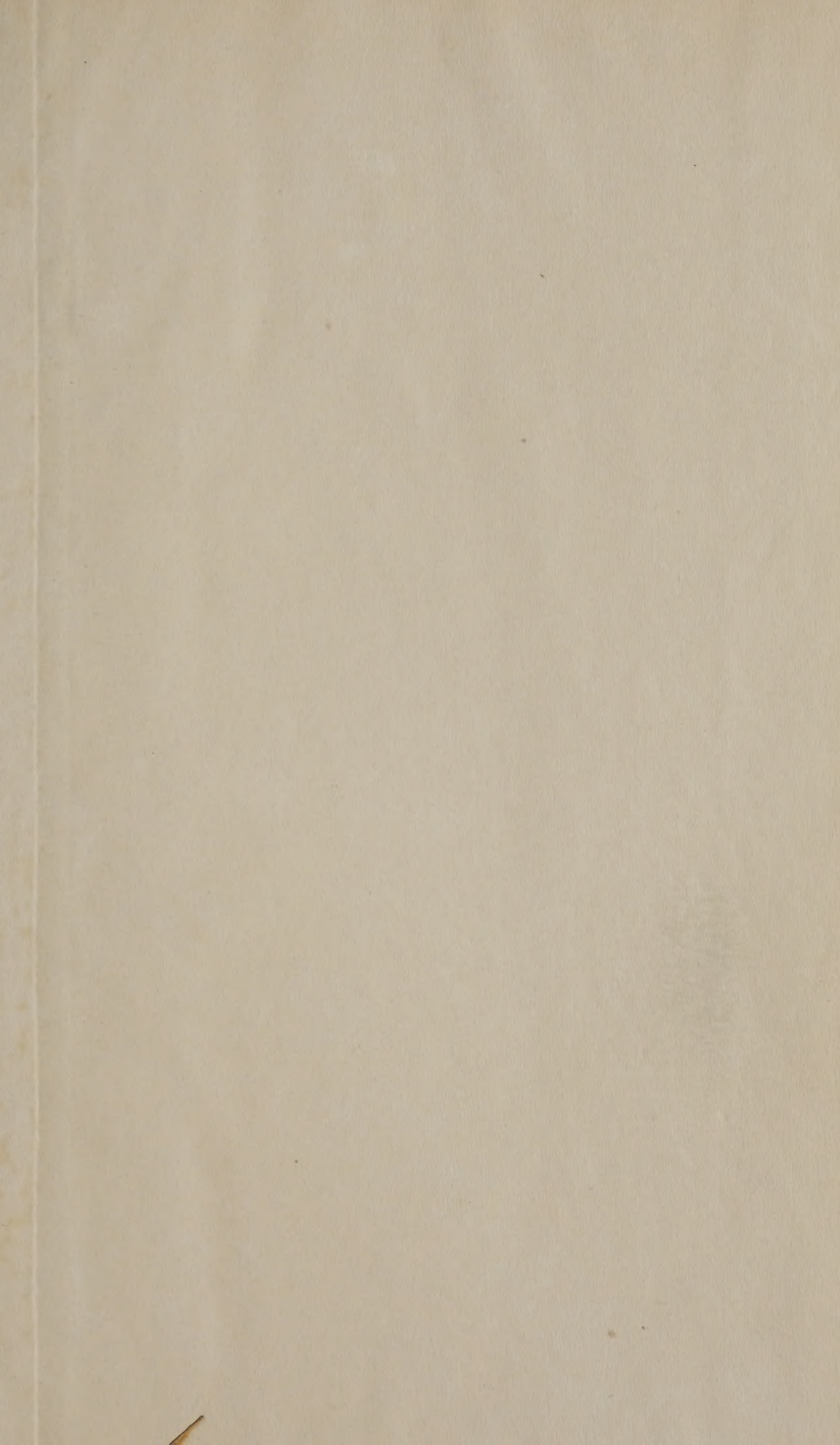
Balance against the town,	\$153 50
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There have been one hundred and twenty-three weeks board at the town farm the past year.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

EBENEZER FISKE Overseer of the Poor.

Lyndeborough. Feb. 24. 1860.



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